

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for allowing a user to perform an assessment for compliance certification, comprising:

a database storing a plurality of evaluation questions and a plurality of assessment questions, wherein subsets of said plurality of evaluation and assessment questions are combinable to form a plurality of assessment courses; and

a server, connected to said database via a communications network, having a processor configured to cause a graphical user interface to be displayed to a network access device connected to said server via said communications network;

wherein said processor is further configured to present to the assessed user, via said graphical user interface, at least one of said plurality of assessment courses[[:]], and to receive responses from the assessed user to the subset of said plurality of evaluation and assessment questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses; and

wherein answers to said evaluation questions are used in said at least one assessment course to determine which of said assessment questions are shown to said assessed user.

2. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 1, further comprising:

a first plurality of minimum scores, stored in said database, each corresponding to one of the subset of said plurality of evaluation questions included in each of said plurality of assessment courses.

3. (Original) The system of Claim 2, further comprising:

a second plurality of minimum scores, stored in said database, each corresponding to one of the subset of said plurality of evaluation questions included in each of said plurality of assessment courses.
4. (Original) The system of Claim 3, wherein said processor is further configured to calculate a first score based on said response to the subset of said plurality of evaluation questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses.
5. (Original) The system of Claim 4, wherein said processor is further configured to calculate a second score based on said response to the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses.
6. (Original) The system of Claim 5, wherein said processor is further configured to determine whether said first score is equal to or exceeds one of said first plurality of minimum scores corresponding to the subset of said plurality of evaluation questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses.
7. (Original) The system of Claim 6, wherein said processor is further configured to determine whether said second score is equal to or exceeds one of said second plurality of minimum scores corresponding to the subset of said plurality of assessment questions

comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses.

8. (Original) The system of Claim 1, wherein said communications network is at least a portion of the global, public Internet.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein each of said responses received from the assessed user to the subset of said plurality of evaluation questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses is indicative of one of the following: "Yes"; and "No".

10. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim 1, wherein each of said responses received from the assessed user to the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses is indicative of one of the following: "Yes"; "No"; and "Not Applicable".

11. (Currently Amended) A computer-implemented method for allowing users to remotely perform assessments for compliance certification, comprising the steps of:

storing a plurality of evaluation questions and a plurality of assessment questions, wherein subsets of said plurality of evaluation and assessment questions are combinable to form a plurality of assessment courses;

causing a graphical user interface to be displayed, over a communications network, to an assessed user;

receiving a selection from said assessed user, via said graphical user interface, wherein said selection is indicative of one of said plurality of assessment courses;

presenting to said assessed user, via said graphical user interface, the subset of said plurality of evaluation and assessment questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses; and

receiving a plurality of responses from said assessed user to the subset of said plurality of evaluation and assessment questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses;

whereby said plurality of responses can be scored in order to determine whether said assessed user should receive a certification for said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses, and

wherein answers to said evaluation questions are used in said at least one assessment course to determine which of said assessment questions are shown to said assessed user.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 11, further comprising the steps of:

storing a first plurality of minimum scores, each corresponding to one of the subset of said plurality of evaluation questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses; and

storing a second plurality of minimum scores, each corresponding to one of the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses.

13. (Original) The method of Claim 12, further comprising the steps of:

calculating a first score based on said plurality of response to the subset of said plurality of evaluation questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses;

calculating a second score based on said plurality of response to the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses;

determining whether said first score is equal to or exceeds one of said first plurality of minimum scores corresponding to the subset of said plurality of evaluation questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses; and

determining whether said second score is equal to or exceeds one of said second plurality of minimum scores corresponding to the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 13, further comprising the step of:

presenting to said assessed user, via said graphical user interface, an indication that they are to receive a certification for said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses when both said determination steps are positive.

15. (Original) The method of Claim 13, wherein each of said plurality of responses to the subset of said plurality of evaluation questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses is indicative of one of the following: "Yes"; and "No".

16. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 15, wherein a weight is assigned to each of said plurality of responses to the subset of said plurality of evaluation questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses, said weight being relative to weights of others of said plurality of responses, based on compliance with at least one goal of said certification.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 15, further comprising the step of:
displaying a deficiency macro to said assessed user, via said graphical user interface, when one of said plurality of responses to the subset of said plurality of evaluation questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses is indicative of “No”.

18. (Original) The method of Claim 13, wherein each of said plurality of responses to the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses is indicative of one of the following: “Yes”; “No”; and “Not Applicable”.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 17, wherein a weight is assigned to each of said plurality of responses to the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses, said weight being relative to others of said plurality of responses, based on compliance with at least one goal of said certification.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 17, further comprising the step of:
displaying a deficiency macro to said assessed user, via said graphical user interface,

when one of said plurality of responses to the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses is indicative of “No”.

21. (Original) The method of Claim 11, wherein said communications network is at least a portion of the global, public Internet.

22. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium having control logic stored therein for causing a computer to perform assessments for compliance certification, said control logic comprising:

first computer readable program code means for causing the computer to store a plurality of evaluation questions and a plurality of assessment questions, wherein subsets of said plurality of evaluation and assessment questions are combinable to form a plurality of assessment courses;

second computer readable program code means for causing the computer to display a graphical user interface, over a communications network, to an assessed user;

third computer readable program code means for causing the computer to receive a selection from said assessed user, via said graphical user interface, wherein said selection is indicative of one of said plurality of assessment courses;

fourth computer readable program code means for causing the computer to present to said assessed user, via said graphical user interface, the subset of said plurality of evaluation and assessment questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses; and

fifth computer readable program code means for causing the computer to receive a plurality of responses from said assessed user to the subset of said plurality of evaluation and

assessment questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses;

whereby said plurality of responses can be scored in order to determine whether said assessed user should receive a certification for said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses, and

wherein answers to said evaluation questions are used in said at least one assessment course to determine which of said assessment questions are shown to said assessed user.

23. (Original) The computer program product of Claim 22, further comprising:

sixth computer readable program code means for causing the computer to store a first plurality of minimum scores, each corresponding to one of the subset of said plurality of evaluation questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses; and

seventh computer readable program code means for causing the computer to store a second plurality of minimum scores, each corresponding to one of the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses.

24. (Original) The computer program product of Claim 23, further comprising:

eighth computer readable program code means for causing the computer to calculate a first score based on said plurality of response to the subset of said plurality of evaluation questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses;

ninth computer readable program code means for causing the computer to calculate a second score based on said plurality of response to the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses;

tenth computer readable program code means for causing the computer to determine whether said first score is equal to or exceeds one of said first plurality of minimum scores corresponding to the subset of said plurality of evaluation questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses; and

eleventh computer readable program code means for causing the computer to determine whether said second score is equal to or exceeds one of said second plurality of minimum scores corresponding to the subset of said plurality of assessment questions comprising said at least one of said plurality of assessment courses.